

# PLATT RULE IS AT AN END.

His Power Has Slipped Away and in His Closing Years He Is a Political Back Number.

HELD CONTROL BY FORCE.

Displaced by Gov. Odell Who Knows the Temper of the State Leaders and Is a Master of Diplomacy.

The passing of Thomas Collier Platt as Republican boss of the State of New York is at last accomplished.

He has been slipping out of power for years, although apparently as strong as ever in his hold on the State and now, as he approaches three score years and ten, the allotted period of existence of man, he finds himself a political back number.

Politicians assert that Senator Platt has been boss only by surferance since 1896. From 1888 until that time he had absolute control of the machine. Then the powerful hand of Benjamin Odell took its place on the controlling lever. For a long time the venerable Senator did not see the hand beside his own, but it was there, and unconsciously the Boss obeyed the pressure of his subordinate.

## His Mysterious Power.

Just how Senator Platt took full control of the machine from Warner Mier, Senator Frank Hancock and Chauncey M. Depew, who had shared it with him, is a question on which politicians are split. Leader after leader up State fell into the hands of the Platt standard, inspired by some mysterious power that the very men upon whom it was exerted could not explain.

This power served to keep him in control when every ambitious politician in the lower end of the State went gunning for him—a pastime that engaged the time of his enemies during the warm summer months for years. Not until Benjamin B. Odell got into politics with both feet, so to speak, was the control of the Senator threatened. It was not charged that Gov. Odell used any underhand work in securing control of the State machine. It passed to him gradually and naturally as power in the hands of a weak man passes into the hands of a man stronger. As Chairman of the State Committee Gov. Odell acquired an acquaintance with the workings of the machine that could not help but eventually give him the leadership.

Not a Diplomat. And, besides, he is a consummate politician, which Senator Platt is not. The Senator held a key to the door of the strength of force. Gov. Odell will hold it through the proper exercise of diplomacy. He knows the temper of the leaders of the State and is smart enough to make concessions. Senator Platt, secure in his knowledge of power, would make concessions to no man.

This was good so long as he was physically able to maintain himself as absolute dictator. But with the accumulation of declining years his physical power deserted him and with the loss of strength came petulance and bull-headedness more pronounced than they had ever shown in him.

Leaders feared him, despite the annoyance he caused them. For advice and sympathy they went to E. B. Odell, the man next in power in the State machine. In his smooth way he placated the leaders and kept them in line, at the same time making them his friends. In time they obeyed the orders of Platt simply because they knew that his shift was short. The occurrence in Saratoga that marked the downfall of the Senator had been anticipated for many months.

Platt Is Out of It. Very likely Senator Platt does not realize all that has happened to him. He may imagine that he is still in control of the machine, and perhaps Gov. Odell will allow him to take a trip at the wheel once in a while, because he is old and set in his ways. But he is certainly as dead in politics as it is possible for a man to be, and the Republican machine of New York is in the hands of Benjamin B. Odell.

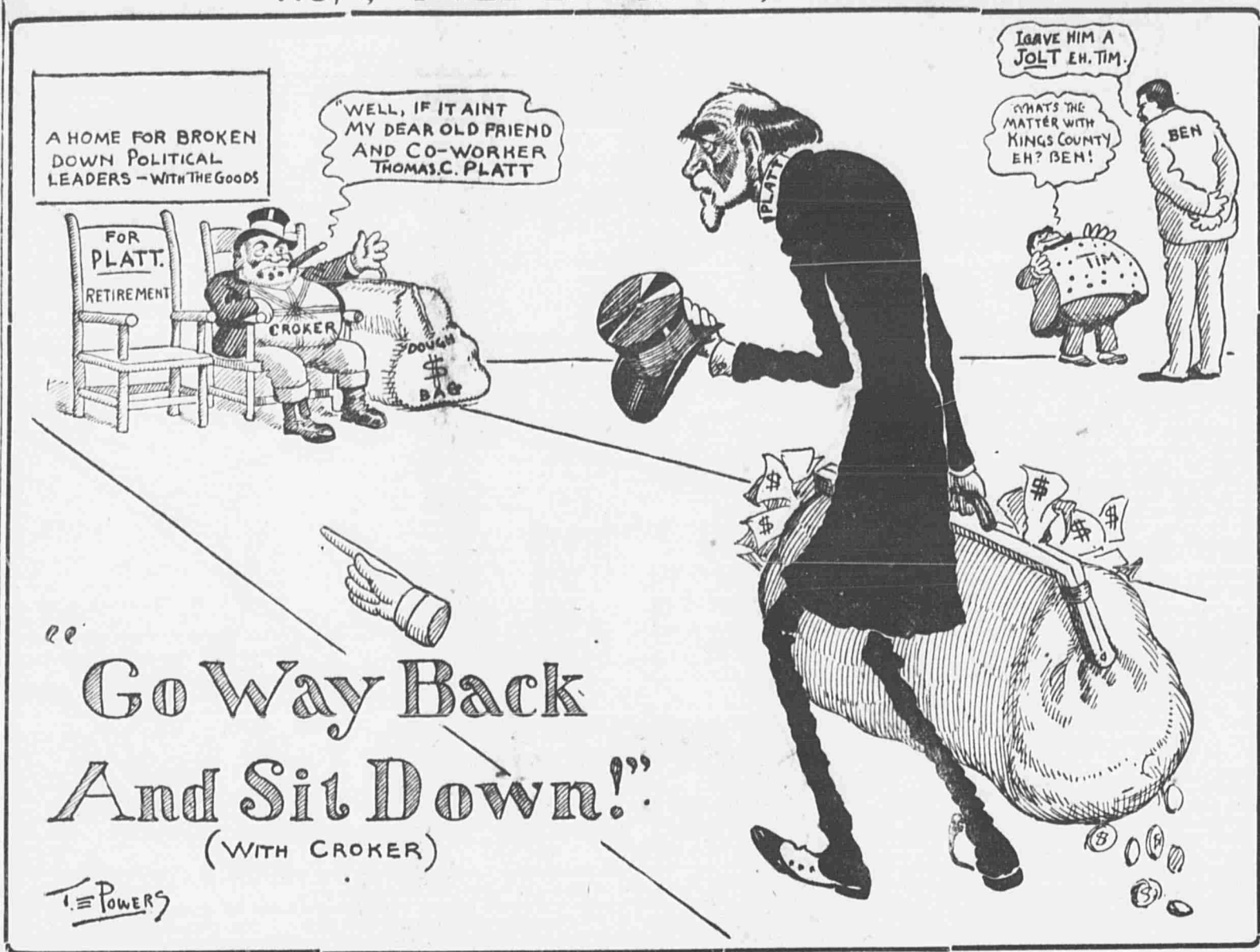
This means that a lot of the fossils of the party, who followed Senator Platt through thick and thin, will be relegated to obscurity. Gov. Odell is a politician who believes in young blood. New names and new faces will be heard and seen in the councils of the party, and the old guard will be gradually forced to share the outer darkness to which their ancient leader will be dropped.

## YALE'S SCHOOL YEAR OPENS.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 25.—Yale University was today reopened in its various departments for the beginning of the two hundred and second year since its founding of the college.

The starting classes, especially in the Sheffield Scientific School and the Law School, were said generally to show an increase over those of former years, but no exact figures of the number of new students were available today.

"WHO KILLED COOK ROBIN?" "I," SAID ODELL;  
"NO, I," CRIED LITTLE TIM, "WITH MY TRUST YELL."



THE PASSING OF THOMAS C. PLATT.

## "I SMASHED THE SLATE."

—LIEUT.-GOV. WOODRUFF.

Doughty Tim Comes Back Proclaiming Victory and Denying Snub by Platt.

## ARE ON GOOD TERMS

Lieut.-Gov. Timothy Woodruff stood under an umbrella at Fifth avenue and Thirty-eighth street at noon today and said to an Evening World reporter:

"I went to Saratoga to smash the slate and I succeeded.

"You can say for me that Senator Platt did not refuse to receive me before he left Saratoga. I spent half an hour with him yesterday afternoon. Our chat was pleasant and most satisfactory.

"I was not seeking the nomination of Lieutenant-Governor. I had refused it.

"We did not go to Saratoga for representation on the ticket. We were after recognition. We didn't get it. When we got to Saratoga we found everything out and dried. Then we started in to smash the slate and we succeeded.

"We had the satisfaction of seeing Sheldon scratched.

"I was opposed to Sheldon because he was named as my successor without consulting me and because I did not regard him as the right man for Lieutenant-Governor. As a candidate he had many objectionable characteristics.

"You may say that Senator Frank Higgins was my choice. He is entirely satisfactory as my successor. I have known him for a long time as a Senator, and he is a very able man.

"The ticket as it now stands is good from top to bottom and it will win."

## PUGSLEY FOR GOVERNOR.

Westchester Delegates to Democratic Convention to Boost Him.

YONKERS, N. Y., Sept. 25.—The Democratic Convention of the First Assembly District of Westchester County met in Hesperia Hall today and selected Mayor Edwin W. Fiske, of Mount Vernon, Mayor M. J. Walsh, of Yonkers, and State Committeeman J. J. Beaudry, of Yonkers, as delegates to the State Convention.

The delegates were instructed to urge the nomination of Congressman Cornelius A. Pugsley for Governor. The delegation of the Third Assembly District were similarly instructed at Peekskill yesterday.

The gossip on the floor of the convention was that Assemblyman John J. Slone, of Yonkers, would be nominated for Senator and Supervisor Stephen Van Tassel, of Mount Vernon, for Assemblyman.

## JAY COOKE LIES NEAR DEATH AT GIBRALTAR.

Physicians Hopeful for Recovery Unless There Is Third Attack of Brain Congestion.

Jay Cooke, the Philadelphia financier, is in a precarious condition in his castle on Gibraltar Island, according to a telegram received in this city today from Toledo, O.

The message says Mr. Cooke suffered

two severe attacks of congestion of the brain within a few hours of each other. The second was more severe than the first, but even with this, the despatch says, his physicians have strong hopes of restoring his health unless he should suffer a third attack.

## NUTMEG DEMOCRATS IGNORE SILVER.

Bryan's Followers Made Fierce Fight for Kansas City Platform—The White Metal Plank Was Not Indorsed.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 25.—The Democratic State Convention, after a wrangle, adopted a platform which ignored the silver plank of the Kansas City platform. John A. Walsh, of Norwalk, was chairman of the convention.

The Committee on Resolutions had a lively session. An amendment to the preamble asserting faith in the principles of Democracy as outlined at the last national convention was rejected by the committee. Eugene A. Fiske, of Guilford, denounced the committee, and, taking up his hat and umbrella, walked out of the meeting, stating to the Chairman that he resigned his membership in the committee.

The platform as adopted was, in part, as follows:

"We, the representatives of the Democratic party of the State of Connecticut, in convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to the Democracy of the nation and reassert our faith in its principles.

"We have no sympathy with the Republican policy of fostering and protecting monopolies by legislation and at the expense of the people. We believe that the prices of beef, coal and other necessities of life have been raised through illegal combinations and by means of special privileges conceded to monopoly by the party in power, and we therefore demand the immediate repeal of all tariffs on trust-produced articles, so as to prevent monopoly under the plea of protection. We also demand the most stringent enforcement of all legislative laws against trusts and the passage of such new laws as are required to supplement and give potency to existing statutes."

## FOR CHATHAM SQUARE.

Chatham Square will have one of the Carnegie public libraries. Plans were filed yesterday for a three-story brick building to be erected at Nos. 2-3 East Broadway. It will be the Chatham Square Branch of Public Library No. 2.

On the first floor will be the children's circulating library; second floor, adults' circulating library; third floor, reading-room. The cost is placed at \$85,000.

## DEMOCRATS TO FIGHT TRUSTS.

Boss Murphy Declares Every Man on the State Ticket Must Be Pledged to Restrictive Legislation.

"The Democratic party of this State will meet the trust issue squarely," declared Leader Charles F. Murphy, of Tammany Hall, today in a dictated statement. "There will be no attempt at evasion, and every man on the ticket will be pledged to support any attempt to pass laws for the curbing of trusts," he said.

Mr. Murphy declared that the trusts were a menace not only to the people but to the Government as well.

Regarding the attitude of the Republican party on the trusts and the withdrawal of George R. Sheldon as a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Murphy said:

"The withdrawal of George R. Sheldon as the candidate of the Republicans for Lieutenant-Governor does not change the fact that he was their choice. It only illustrates the alarm of the party managers. It does not take away the demand of the trusts, had agreed to name Sheldon and that the party had accepted him."

"His presence on the ticket meant protection to the trusts. The trust plank in the Republican platform is a most evasive one, but will not mislead the voters."

## WOMAN RULE FOR NURSES.

Dr. Stewart, superintendent of Bellevue Hospital, announced today that Miss Delano, who has been in charge of the women nurses at the hospital, had been placed in charge of all nurses, both men and women.

Mrs. A. J. Willard, who has had charge of the male nurses, was also a candidate for the position. She may now sever her connection with the hospital.

## ROCKEFELLER'S GUEST THIRSTY.

Sievers, German Financier, Found Water Only on the Table of the Standard Oil Man.

## HE COULDN'T DRINK IT.

It's not uncommon to hear of a man being "driven to drink," but this particular man was driven there in the private carriage of that millionaire teetotaler, John D. Rockefeller.

Rudolph Sievers, who aided Mr. Rockefeller in introducing the Oil Trust to Germany, is the hero of an amusing little story told at the clubs.

On the occasion of his recent visit to America, Mr. Sievers accepted an invitation to be a guest at the magnate's country house at Pocantico Hills, for a week. He remained, however, but a few hours.

Like a shipwrecked sailor, Mr. Sievers could see nothing but water. He waited, course after course, for something better with which to wash down the choice viands, but when he saw the water bottle again and again called into requisition he finally gave up in despair.

At the end of three hours of abominable martyrdom the German—used to German beverages—sought his room. Presently he sent for his host. Mr. Rockefeller found his guest apparently suffering severe illness. In faint tones the unhappy German explained that country air invariably affected him so, bringing on a peculiar sickness which only a return to city air could cure.

Asked for a Carriage. Mr. Rockefeller endeavored to persuade his guest recovery might come to him there in a few hours, but the German sadly shook his head, and weakly requested that a carriage be called to take him away. A minute later Mr. Rockefeller was regretfully shaking hands with his fleeing guest.

Once outside the Rockefeller gates, he ordered that he be driven post haste to the nearest saloon. The driver remonstrated that Mr. Rockefeller's carriage standing before a saloon would be a spectacle amounting to little less than a scandal. In answer to this the "sick" man said something in German which sounded extremely incoherent. So, with many misgivings, the coachman drew rein before the door of a well-known road-house.

The German did not wait to have something brought out to him. Alighting, he hurried inside and leaning comfortably against the bar, ordered two or three things at once.

## BIG BURDEN ON REAL ESTATE.

Mayor Low Favors Putting the Weight of Taxation on Buildings and Ground.

## IGNORES PERSONAL TAX.

Says the Method Suggested for Increasing Borrowing Capacity of the City Is the Only Solution of Problem.

Mayor Low chose as the subject for his Thursday talk to-day the question of taxation in relation to the borrowing capacity of the city. The Mayor takes the ground that the burden of taxation on real estate, which is by custom limited to a percentage of the full value, should be increased. Comptroller Grout also takes this view. The World contends that some of the burden should be borne by personal property.

The Mayor said in the course of a long statement:

"I gladly avail of this opportunity to show, why this change from the unauthorized custom of assessing at less than the full value to the practice of following the clear meaning of the law and assessing at full value should be adopted."

"In order to understand the problems confronting the city it must be remembered the Constitution of the State limits the amount of the debt which the city may have 'in any form' to 10 per cent of the assessed valuation of its real estate. The effect of these words 'in any form' is to make an entire contract a part of the city's debt the moment it is signed, even though it may be several years before the money is actually spent."

"Thus the rapid transit contract, which was signed in February, 1900, has ever since deprived the city of credit to the extent of \$35,000,000. Up to this date only \$20,000,000 of bonds have been issued on this account."

"The Brooklyn tunnel contract, amounting to \$3,000,000, which was signed this month, has already deprived us of our capacity to borrow for any other purpose to the extent of \$3,000,000, although nothing has been spent, and the money will probably not be actually paid out in full in less than three years."

"These illustrations show why the city must have a large debt-incurring capacity, if it is to carry forward great public works; but they also show that debt-incurring capacity, even when large contracts are made, does not necessarily mean a rapid increase of the interest-bearing debt. All subway work, for instance, by the terms of the contract, takes care of itself, both interest and principal. But without large debt-incurring capacity no such work can be authorized; for it uses up the city's credit, and thus makes it impossible for the city to do the many other things that must be done."

"The Comptroller's estimate is that if no change is made in the percentage of the assessed valuation of real estate the city's debt-incurring capacity next year will be about \$15,000,000 only. If this margin were to be reduced by following the taxpayer of the present excessive contribution to the sinking funds of \$9,000,000 the city's debt-incurring capacity next year would be reduced to \$7,000,000—barely enough to provide for the necessary new schools."

"There is another and equally important aspect. Unless the city can afford to lock up \$9,000,000 of its credit at one time the east side tunnel, including the Jerome avenue extension, can never be authorized. The two unfinished bridges across the East River are similarly involved."

"The city's imperative need is large debt-incurring capacity. There is only one other way in which to enlarge the city's debt-incurring capacity other than by increasing the assessed values of real estate. That is by getting the Constitution of the State amended so as to either permit the city to borrow more than 10 per cent on its real estate valuation or to exempt certain classes of debt from the constitutional limitation. There are many objections to this, the principal of which is that it would require three years to secure any relief."

"By the policy of assessing the city's real estate at its full value, as the law directs, the city's public improvements can be practically completed."

Mayor Low's next talk will be devoted to the schools.

## AFTER BRACELET, TOO.

Woman Awakened by Burglar Removing Her Jewelry.

ITHACA, N. Y., Sept. 25.—Miss Josephine Brooks, the daughter of a prosperous farmer near here, was awakened by a burglar last night who was attempting to take a bracelet from her arm.

She screamed and the man fled. It then developed that he had chloroformed her father and mother and taken about \$200 in money.

## WHERE'S PLATT? SAYS MORGAN.

Great Financial Backer of His Man Sheldon Makes a Rainy-Day Call at Amen Corner.

## EASY BOSS NOT THERE.

Whereat Mr. Morgan Grunted and Left and the Railbirds Wondered if He "Gave Up" Before Goods Were Delivered.

Early sitters in the Amen Corner of the Fifth Avenue Hotel were almost petrified with astonishment at 10 o'clock this morning when they saw J. Pierpont Morgan come in out of the rain and stamp down the wide corridor.

The great financier was mad. He showed it in every move, in the way he carried his head, in the expression of his face. He pounded his umbrella on the marble floor, fixed his cold eyes on the clock above the big safe and steered a straight course for the desk.

"Where's Platt?" he asked.

"What Platt?" asked the urbane clerk right back.

"Senator Platt," snapped the Wall Street giant. "I want to see Senator Platt."

"Senator Platt has not returned from Saratoga," replied the clerk. "Do you want to leave any message?"

Mr. Morgan did not reply. He blew his mustache out from his lips in a way characteristic of him when he is mad. He grunted. Without a word in reply to the clerk's question he turned around, stamped out to his carriage and was driven away.

Evidently Mr. Morgan is desirous of knowing just why George R. Sheldon was not nominated for Lieutenant-Governor. He wants Senator Platt to tell him. And Senator Platt is laying low.

It was not his fault that Morgan's man was not named as the running mate for Gov. Odell.

When the Amen Corner sitters had recovered from their astonishment they began to talk. The remarkable action of Mr. Morgan in seeking out Senator Platt at his hotel so early on a rainy morning suggested to them that perhaps Mr. Morgan had contributed that \$100,000 to the campaign fund in advance. If this is true it is only natural that he should want his money back, since Senator Platt has failed to deliver the goods.

## SPEAKER RAPS IOWA ENEMIES.

Gen. Henderson at Last Breaks Silence on His Withdrawal from Congressional Race.

## HITS AT FREE-TRADERS.

Declares that Gov. Cummins and Other Iowa Republicans Hold Views That Would Wreck Their Party.

(Special to The Evening World.) ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 25.—Speaker Henderson, now at Atlantic City, has broken silence concerning his withdrawal as a candidate for Congress from his district in Iowa.

"I do not believe," he said, "that my action will injure the Republican party, but, on the contrary, will help its success. The party will soon get enough of the men who are trying to lead it into false paths."

"The country at large does not understand the Iowa situation. Gov. Cummins wants to use free trade, in whole or in part, to hit the trusts. I don't believe that to be the true remedy, but think it fraught with disaster for the country."

"I feel confident the majority of voters in my district—yes, the majority of voters in the State of Iowa—are in accord with my views. But many Iowa citizens have become inoculated with this new plan for hitting the trusts, regardless of the consequences to the people. I am willing to fight Democrats and Populists, but when it comes to fighting Republicans I desire to step out and let these men try their schemes. The Republican party will soon have enough of such disastrous medicine as they propose to administer to cure the trust evil."

"The Cincinnati speech of the President was splendid, and the opinions he put forward in that address are entirely in accord with those I gave in my letter to the citizens of my district, which I announced that I would not be a candidate for re-election to Congress."

## MONUMENT TO SOLDIERS.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 25.—The monument erected on the Capitol Grounds in memory of the First Regiment, Heavy Artillery Connecticut Volunteers, was formally dedicated today, in the presence of 2,000 veterans of the civil war.

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